

## **Intersessional Meeting 2023**

**S1.** Dear Ladies and Gentlemen! Let me express my gratitude to the President of the Convention and ISU for organizing the Intersessional Meeting and providing the opportunity to share the progress made by Tajikistan in its fulfillment of Article 5 obligations. On this photo you can see the survey team passing dangerous terrain on their way to the operation site.

**S2.** I would like to bring to your attention the updates on the progress made by Tajikistan during 2019-end of 2022 in accordance with the Extension Request. This map shows the districts with circles, where green color belongs to the areas already free from mines, orange color – the areas reduced, and grey color – the areas cancelled.

In 2019, on the date of submission of our second extension request, the Remaining challenge was **8,848,210 m<sup>2</sup>**.

In accordance with the Extension request, the planned target for the period 2019-2022 was **5,254,637 m<sup>2</sup>**.

But the result of land release for the period 2019-2022 was **4,964,810 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Thus, the remaining hazard areas to be cleared by end 2025, in accordance with the current Extension Request, have the size **3,883,400 m<sup>2</sup>**.

**S3.** Here you can see the results of land release operations related to the new unknown hazard areas. During 2019 - end 2022, 51 new unknown mined areas (without Minefield records) measuring 8,991,226 m<sup>2</sup> were identified and registered as Confirmed Hazard Areas. Out of this number, 3 minefields covering 772,967 m<sup>2</sup> were canceled and registered as a safe area; and 24 minefields with the size 3,674,701 m<sup>2</sup> were cleared. Thus, the total released area of the previously unknown hazard areas made 4,447,668 m<sup>2</sup>. I would like to highlight, that these areas have not been registered in our IMSMA database and we didn't have any minefield records for them until the mentioned period.

**S4.** As you may remember, in 2019 during the Oslo Review Conference the second Extension Request until December 2025 submitted by Tajikistan was accepted by State Parties. At that moment the contamination in Tajikistan was 195 areas with the total size of 8,848,210 m<sup>2</sup>. As of end 2022, the progress made 95 areas released covering **9,412,478** square meters.

It includes 1,915,789 m<sup>2</sup> cancelled through non-technical survey; 1,951,448 m<sup>2</sup> reduced through technical survey; and 5,545,241 m<sup>2</sup> released through clearance. As a result, 13,705 Anti-Personnel mines and 5,395 other devices found and destroyed.

**S5.** Here you can see the Land release progress during 2019-2022 in percentage. Out of the total released area of **9,412,478** m<sup>2</sup> – 59% refer to clearance, 21% - reduction, and 20% - cancellation.

**S6.** This table provides figures on the number and the size of areas released from 2019 up to the end 2022 with current available resources. The result is 95 areas released with the total size of 9,412,478 m<sup>2</sup>. This figure includes 27 new previously unknown hazard areas with the total size of 4,447,668 m<sup>2</sup>, which were found during survey operations.

**S7.** Despite the significant progress made by the country there is still much to be done ahead. Here I would like to highlight once again, that, as practice shows, new hazard areas without minefield records are still identified during survey operations.

And, in accordance with the information recorded in IMSMA, the remaining challenge as of end 2022 is 174 hazard areas measuring 12,819,354 m<sup>2</sup> to be addressed during the following years. This includes: 150 confirmed hazard areas measuring 11,564,354m<sup>2</sup> and 24 suspected hazard areas measuring estimated 1,255,000m<sup>2</sup>. All relevant changes will be reflected in the Updated Work Plan and submitted to the Committee of the Convention in due time. To achieve the land release goal it is highly required to increase funds for enhancing the land release capacity.

**S8.** Here you can see the table demonstrating more detailed projections of the number of areas and the size of mined area to be addressed annually to achieve completion. As can be seen from this table, the most contaminated areas are in highly mountainous areas, that is Khatlon province and Badakhshon province.

**S9.** Now I would like to highlight the main challenges faced in the course of implementation of Tajikistan's obligations under the Ottawa Convention. They are:

Insufficient funding – Currently, the US Department of State is the biggest foreign donor of our programme. Also, OSCE and Norway make a great contribution to support the land release operations in the country.

Nevertheless, there is still a significant shortage in funding of Tajikistan mine action programme.

Other constraints refer to: difficult mountainous terrain; weather conditions, posing restrictions to the operational time; natural disasters (rockfalls, avalanches, landslides, etc. cause movement of mines and expand the hazard area).

More problems are caused by the unavailability of minefield records - numerous minefields are identified without minefield records during the survey operations. Security issues also hamper demining operations on the Tajik side of Tajik-Afghan border.

**The needs** include additional funding about 14 mln USD; Equipment including Metal detectors, deminer's and EOD toolkits, PPEs, cross-country vehicles, spare parts for mechanical demining machine, medical supplies, etc.; Increase the number of demining teams (6 additional teams) and survey teams (2 additional teams);

Involvement of qualified specialist mechanical demining machine technical maintenance.

We are in full commitment to perform our obligations with the purpose to meet the obligations and make the life of our people safe! Based on our current situation, when we could not find additional funding sources, and taking into account that, as I mentioned earlier, we still find new hazard areas without minefield records, obviously Tajikistan will submit its next Extension request. But it will be clearer by the end of this year depending on our land release progress.

On behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan, I would like to thank our current donors, US Department of State, OSCE, Norway and our partners FSD, NPA, GICHD, ISU, ICRC for their valuable contribution to the Tajikistan Mine Action Programme. And I would like to urge the international donor community to grant its support to Tajikistan Mine Action Programme to make our country mine-free and by doing this to improve the lives of our people and help the economy of Tajikistan grow.

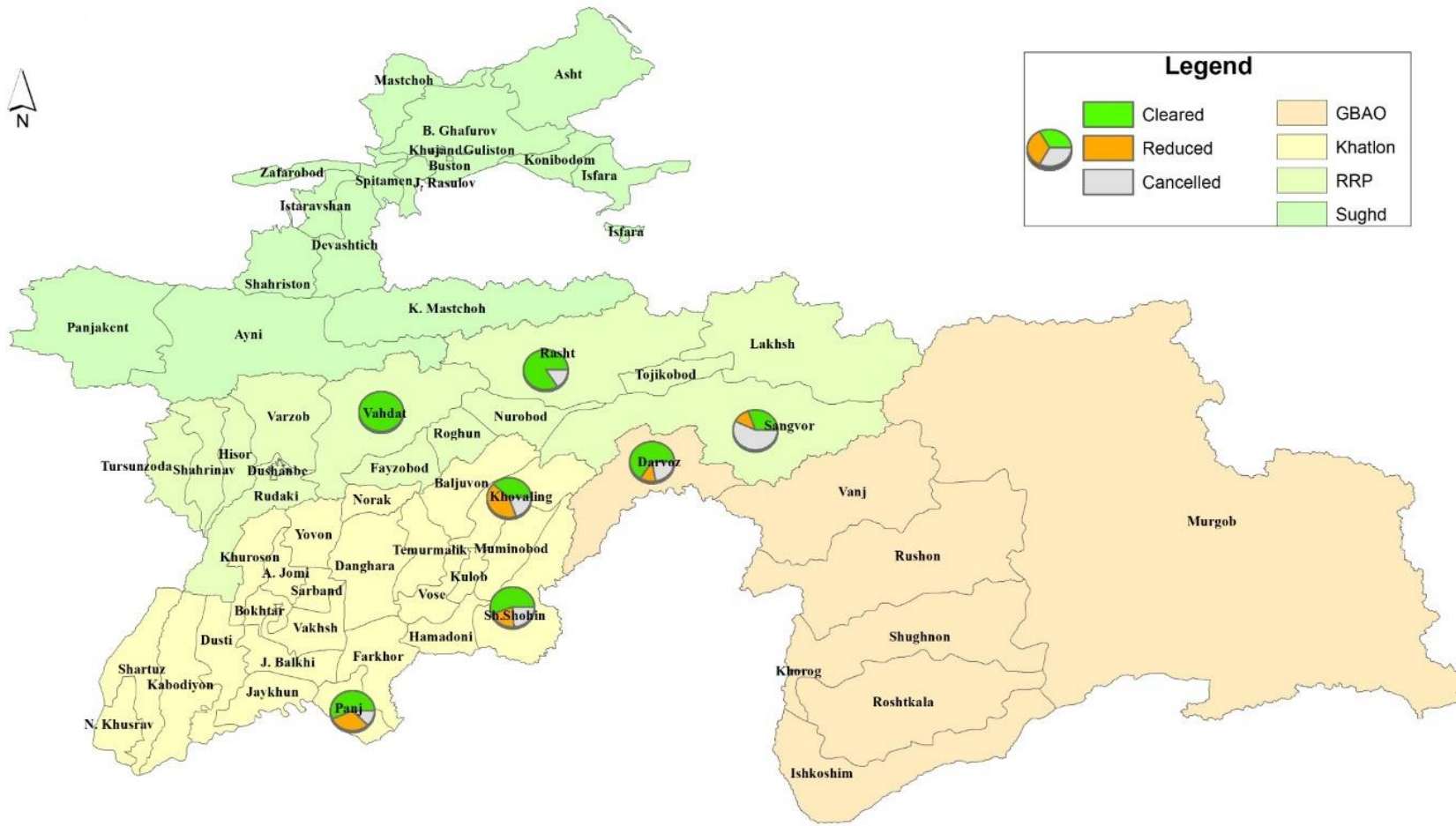
**S10.** Thank you for your attention!



# Article 5 implementation by Tajikistan

TNMAC Director  
Major General Muhabbat Ibrohimzoda

# Progress during the extension period (2019 - 2022)



2019 Remaining challenge:  
**8,848,210 m<sup>2</sup>**

Target for the period 2019-2022: **5,254,637 m<sup>2</sup>**.

Addressed **4,964,810 m<sup>2</sup>** for the period 2019 – 2022.

Remaining hazard areas according to the Extension Request cover **3,883,400 m<sup>2</sup>**.



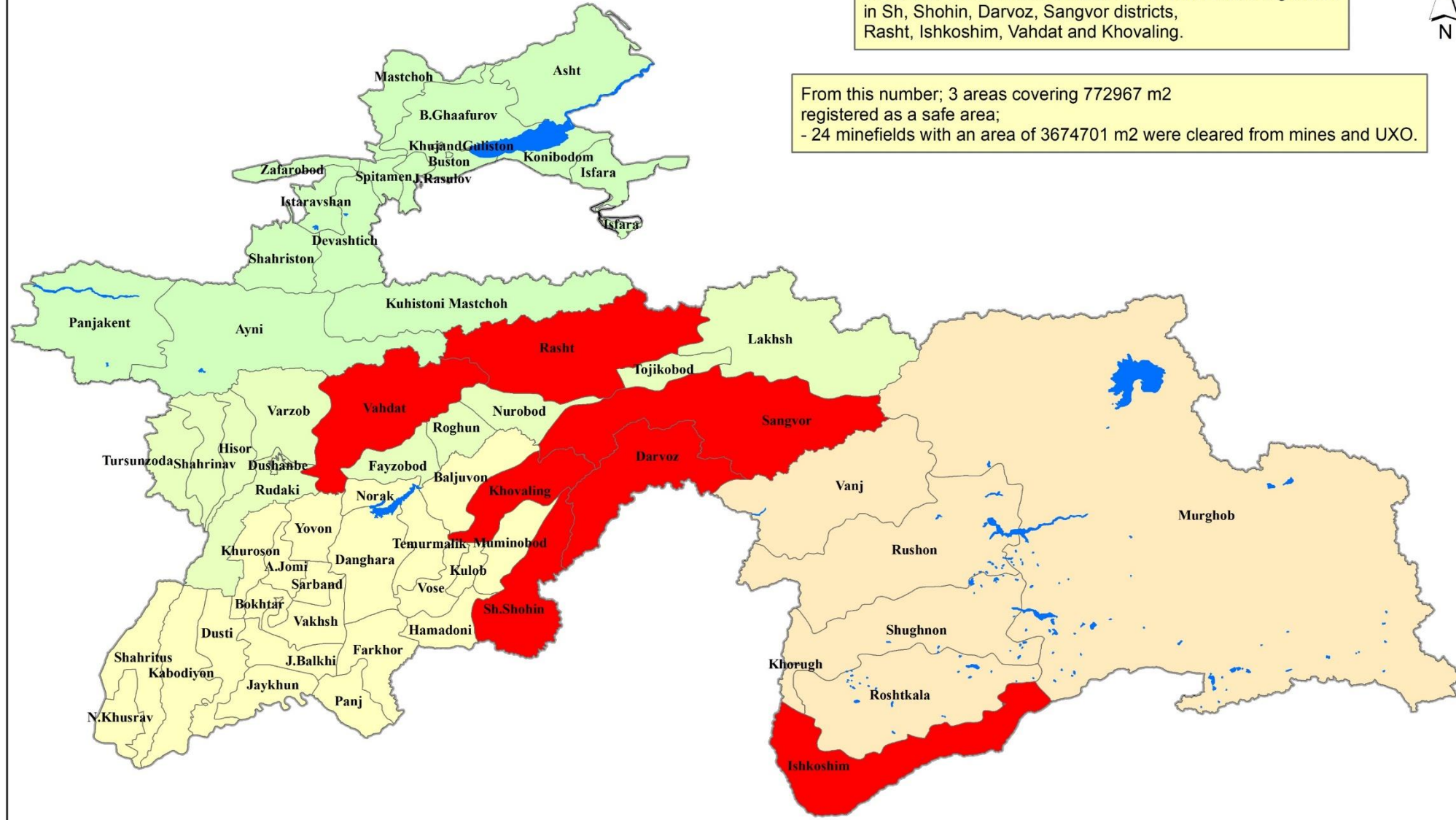


# The result of survey activities during 2019-2022 on new hazard areas without maps and minefield records



51 hazard areas with an area of 8991226 m<sup>2</sup> were registered in Sh, Shohin, Darvoz, Sangvor districts, Rasht, Ishkoshim, Vahdat and Khovaling.

From this number; 3 areas covering 772967 m<sup>2</sup> registered as a safe area;  
- 24 minefields with an area of 3674701 m<sup>2</sup> were cleared from mines and UXO.



Created by IMSMA  
Date: May 2023

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**Legend**

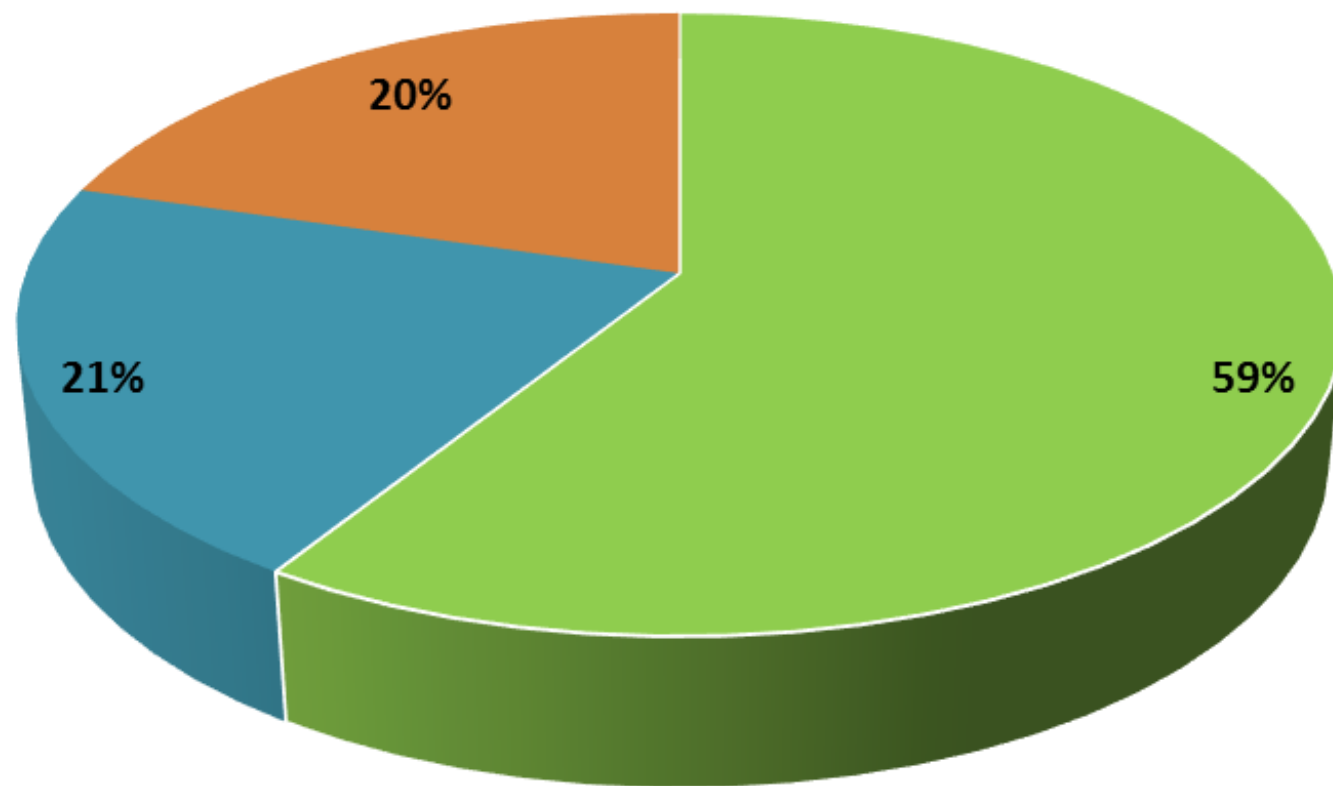
districts

# Summary of Progress made

- Current deadline: December 2025
- Request for extension for a period of 5 years until December 2025

Contamination in total (at the time of submission of your State's last extension request.)	195 areas 8,848,210 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Progress made (as of end 2022)</b>	<b>95 areas released</b> <b>9,412,478 square meters</b>  1,915,789 m <sup>2</sup> cancelled through non-technical survey 1,951,448 m <sup>2</sup> reduced through technical survey 5,545,241 m <sup>2</sup> released through clearance  13,705 Anti-Personnel mines destroyed 5,395 other devices destroyed

## Land release ratio (2019-2022)



■ Cleared ■ Reduced ■ Cancelled

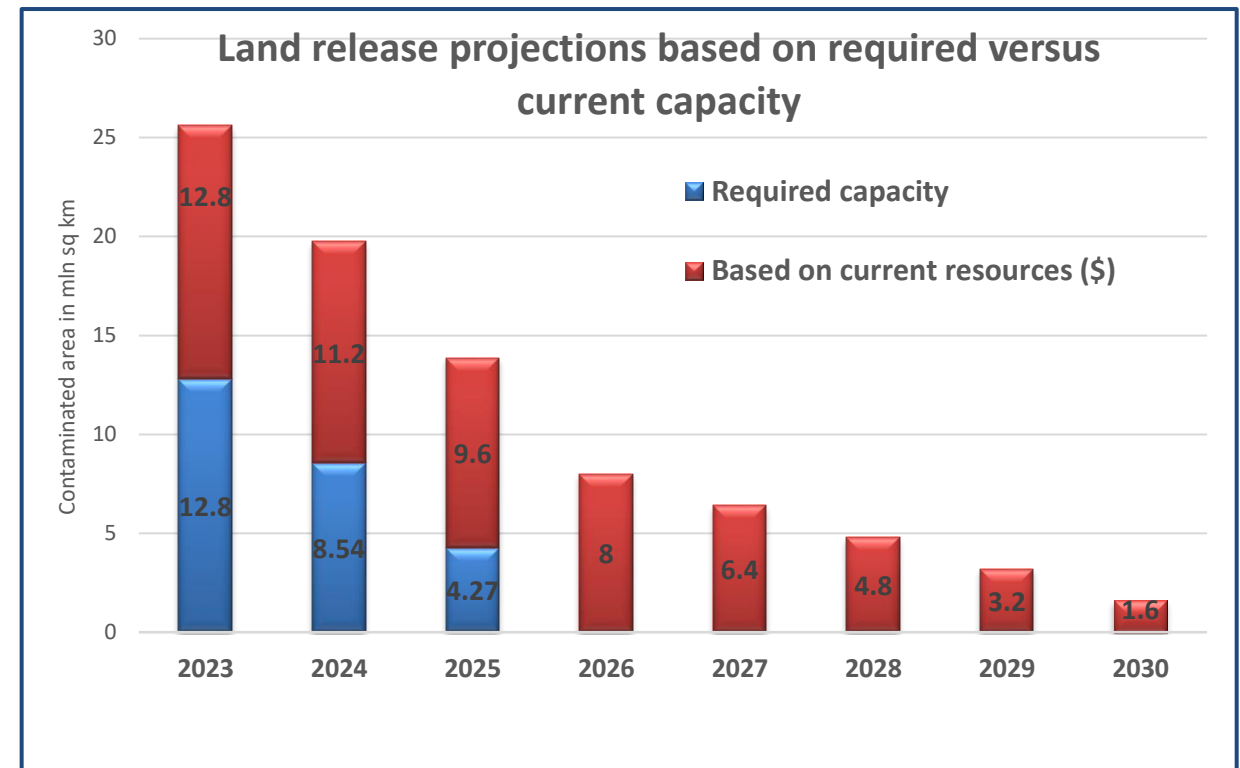
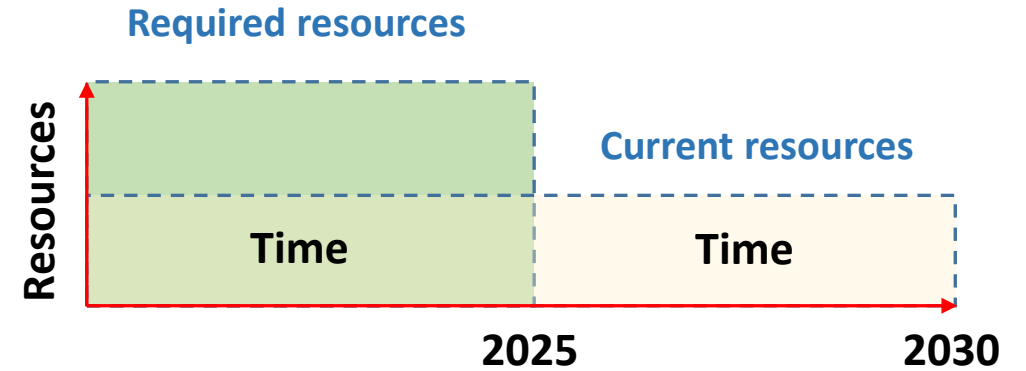
# Land Release during 2019-2022 with current resources

Years	Number of released areas	Size of released area (m <sup>2</sup> )
2019	19	2,418,559 m <sup>2</sup>
2020	36	2,222,688 m <sup>2</sup>
2021	24	2,799,342 m <sup>2</sup>
2022	16	1,971,889 m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>9,412,478 m<sup>2</sup></b>

# Remaining contamination

The remaining challenge by the end 2022 - 174 hazard areas measuring 12,819,354 m<sup>2</sup>:

- 150 CHAs measuring 11,564,354 m<sup>2</sup>
- 24 SHAs measuring estimated 1,255,000 m<sup>2</sup>



# Plan / Timeline for addressing remaining challenges with Required resources

Years	Number of Areas	Amount of Area
2023	62	4,237,337 m <sup>2</sup>
2024	69	4,339,381 m <sup>2</sup>
2025	43	4,242,636 m <sup>2</sup>

Province	2023	2024	2025	Total
Badakhshon (VMKB)	2108382	899800	1363119	4371301
Khatlon	1916992	1838181	1227684	4982857
DRS	211963	1601400	1651833	3465196
<b>Total (sq. meters)</b>	<b>4237337</b>	<b>4339381</b>	<b>4242636</b>	<b>12819354</b>
<b>Total Number of Areas</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>174</b>

# Challenges and Needs

Challenges:	Needs:
Insufficient funding	Additional funding required: about 14 mln USD
Difficult terrain/Weather conditions/Natural disasters/High vegetation	Equipment: Metal detectors, deminer's and EOD toolkits, PPEs, cross-country vehicles, spare parts for mechanical demining machine, medical supplies, etc.
Unavailability of minefield records	Increase the number of demining teams (6 additional teams) and survey teams (2 additional teams).
Security situation	Involvement of qualified specialist mechanical demining machine technical maintenance

**Thank you for your attention!**

